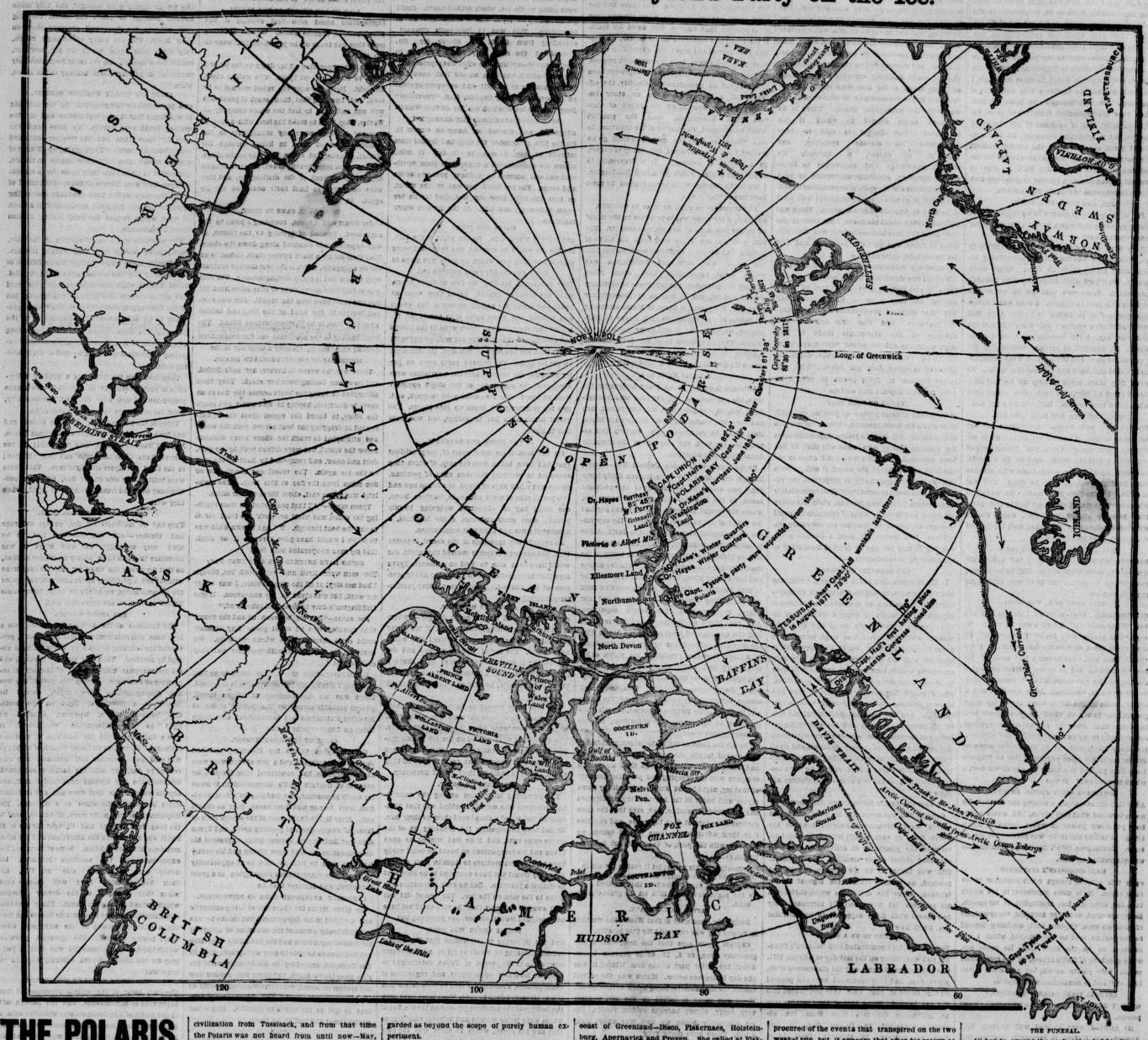
## THE NORTH POLAR REGION.

Map Showing the Earth's Surface at the Arctic Circle with Former Explorations, the Track of the Hall Expedition and the Drift of Tyson's Party on the Ice.



## THE POLARIS

History of the Expedition in the Polar Sea--- Why It Failed.

The Mystery of the Death of Captain Hall.

POISONED!

Significant Statements by the Esqui-

maux---Quarrels on Board.

THE STORY OF THE DRIFT!

Graphic Recital of the Six Months on an Ice-Floe.

ABANDONED BY ALL SAVE GOD.

The Resence by the Tigress-Reception in St. Johns-Scientifie Results.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., May 14, 1873. The departure of the Polaris expedition, under the command of Captain Hall, in the year 1871, is a fact well known, as also her visit to this port in July of that year and her departure hence in the same month for Greenland, preparatory to her final departure for the Arctic regions. After taking additional supplies from the United States steamship Congress, at Disco, she sailed to Uper-

TRUTH STRANGER THAN PICTION.

surviving net only the favorable coincidence of circumstances, but, beyond that, the merciful and restraining hand of a watchful and beneficent

Captain Hall died on the 9th day of November, L. D., 1871, or the first Winter after his arrival North. From this point the expedition loses almost all interest, regarded from a scientific point of view er in respect of its legitimate and only object. Its subsequent history consists of a colection of facts and experiences, forming a narrative almost impossible to believe.

No discriminating man would wonder that if any two persons (both, perhaps, reliable in point of veracity) should relate their experiences of fact in a widely different manner, some discrepancies capable of being substantially reconciled should be found. It would be much less a matter of astonishment that their statements, when involving an effort of judgment rather than memory, should so widely diverge as to be inconsistent and untrustworthy. But when such a period as six months is the subject of comment and recapitulation, with nineteen individuals of different capabilities and dispositions and habits of reflection, what wender if much that one relates is omitted by another, or that widely different inferences should be deduced from identical facts, and especially when there may possibly exist an undiscovered variety of interests ? Ins probable, therefore, that some striking inconsistencies may be discovered in this

THE EXPEDITION STARTS.

The first period in this expedition, and that of prime importance to those interested in its his tory, is that from its entrance into the Danish waters to Captain Hall's decease, in Novembe 1871. The main facts of that period may be thus condensed, inasmuch as, so far as they go, no

burg, Apernavick and Proven. She called at Fiskernaes on or about July 30, 1871, to take on board Hans Christian (Esquimaux), wife and family, but found on arrival that they were not there. At Holsteinburg they purchased Exquimaux dogs for sledge expeditions, also various skins, On arriving at Apernavick a boat was sent to Proven, about twenty-five miles to the south, and brought back Hans Christian and family. They then proceeded north. On the 24th of August ship left Tessinsack and went through Smith's Sound. Smith's Sound is described as identical with the Polar Sea of Kane, discovered in the expedition of 1853-4-5. North of this is what is now called Robeson's Channel, in which was attained the greatest northern latitude reached-

of nearly forty-five miles. Beyond this Robeson's Channel was a lead of water north, beyond which western side land stretching as far as the eye could reach and on the east some land, but indistinctly delineated. This bay or ocean was

rious difficulty prevented the Polaris from advance called by Captain Hall—in latitude 81 38, longitude 61 44, where

sledge expedition north to renew his vigorous efforts in the direction of the Polar Sea. These sieds (two in number on this occasion) were drawn by Esquimaux dogs, purchased at Holsteinburg. Mr. nied by Joe, Hans Christian and thester, the mate. The party was absent two weeks, and returned to Polaris Bay on the 24th of aris visited the Danish settlements on the east | October, 1871. No authentic information can be

weeks' trip, but it appears that after his return to the ship Captain Hall was almost immediately

CAPTAIN HALL'S ILLNESS AND DEATH. John Heron, the steward, makes the following statement:-Captain Hall had good health up to the time of returning from the sledge expedition. He was not sick when he came on board, but complained soon afterwards and said that the heat of the cabin affected him. He got water to wash and put on clean underclothing. I asked what he would have—was anxious to get him something nice. He didn't care about anything but a cup of coffee and didn't drink even that. I had no conversation with Captain Hall when he was sick, except to ask him if he was better occasionally or how he was. and such like. He was sick a fortnight and talked very fittle. He was perfectly delirious for the last few days. I think he was paralyzed on one side Heard no one say so (1). It was my opinion. There was nothing sudden about his death. He was attended by Dr. Bessells and Mr. Morton, who did everything in their power to alleviate his sufferings, but without effect. His illness cast a gloom over the entire company, and was the first discouraging circumstance which had occurred in connection with the expedition. His death made us all feel very sad. WHAT CAPTAIN TYSON SAYS.

Captain Tyson, speaking of Captain Hall's death, ays:-Hall was sick fifteen days. At the first he was paralyzed, and then delirious. He was insansible when he died. He started from the ship on a sled expedition northwards on the 16th of October. He was absent fourteen days, and returned on the 24th of October to the ship. On the 8th of Nevember he died, and was buried on the 11th. His grave bore south-southeast, and about five hundred paces distant from the observatory in Polaris Bay, which was in intitude 81 38, longitude el 44, on the shore. We crected a beard over his grave, with an inscription out giving his name, age (orty years), date of death and command of North

It was a dark, dismal, cold, windy and disagreeable day. The wind was mournfully howling, and the hearts of all were enveloped in deepest sadness. I held a lantern, and by the light of it the beautiful service of the Episcopal Church was read by Mr. Bryant. As the soothing words, "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord," fell upon the ears of the auditors there were few dry eyes,

and there, amid THE SAVAGE DESOLATION OF NATURE

most rugged, the power of Christianity made itself felt by those who had never before acknowledged its induence, and when the closing words of the service were spoken "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life" the mariners on the ice thanked God that amid the privations with which they were threatened, there still remained the blessed hope of an immortality, where the "weary should be at rest." Few of those who were present at the burial will forget the deeply affecting scene. Old sailors, whose faces had been bronzed by Summer suns and frozen in Arctic seas, wept aloud. Captain Hall was unfversally beloved, and his death at a time when the enterprise promised so hopefully was felt by his survivors to be an irretrievable loss. Those thoughts were uppermost in the minds of all, and when the funeral party returned to the ship there was a hushed silence attending the performance of

Captain Tyson thinks that the death of Hall resulted from apoplexy, but it is

A STRANGE AND ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED CIRCUM

that a disease which is generally so sudden in its workings should require two weeks to snatch away

Captain Tyson did not speak fully as to the death of Captain Hall. He appeared to be deeply grieved

RETICENT UPON SUBJECTS

connected with his adventures that especially touched his feelings even his own sufferings. Joe

THE LONG SUSPENSE.

Notwithstanding that almost innumerable rumors had become disseminated, through the me dium of Scotch and Danish vessels, as to the fate and fortune of the Polaris, it is now an undeniable fact that from her departure in 1971, up to May, 1873-a period of nearly two years no authentic report of her condition or progress had reached the civilized world. That information is now announced from the Island of Newfoundland; for, on the 30th day of April, A. D. 1873, the steamship Tigress, owned by Messrs. Harvey & Co. of this port, while engaged in the prosecution of the Newfoundland seal fishery in the latitude 53 1 north providentially steamed in a dense fog upon a fice of ice, which proved to be the some time habitation (actually) of nineteen living human creatures of the Arctic steamship Polaris, who had arrived thus far south by the agency, though at the bitter mercy of the winds, waves, storms and frozen convulsions of the Northern Atlantic Ocean. They had drifted on a scanty surface of ice and beyond the sight of land 1,500 miles during the Winter months, without food or clothing to be tolerated by ordinary mortals. But a further description of these ravages of dire necessity anon. The famously rugged and inhospitable rocky coasts of Newfoundland proved a safe and acceptable asylum to these unrivalled denizens of Polarity.

That nineteen souls, several of them children, and one only born into this world but a few few days before, should exist on drifting ice for six months, resting upon an ocean of proverbial uncertainty, now placifly reposing in perfect calm, now lashed into more than demoniacal fury by the maddening drafts and currents of Polar regions, and constantly situated in opposition with inevhable destruction from bergs and wildly careering mountains and felds. Impelled by various in mavik. In August Captain Hall sent his adjeu to | fluences, is almost incredible enough to be

and, it is conjectured, that this clear expanse of sea is either the North Polar Ocean or a sound or strait leading to it. From the general evidence given upon this point, it would appear that no seing into this sea. After reaching this latitude (82 16) the ship returned to winter at Polaris Bay-so

On the 10th of October Captain Hall started on